

April 9, 2007

MLPA Initiative
The California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Nomination for Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

Dear Director Brodrick, Chair Golding, Ms. Miller-Henson and MLPA Initiative Staff:

I would like you to consider my nomination to the Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG). Your emphasis on candidates who represent a wide diversity of stakeholder perspectives, expertise and geography I believe makes me a strong candidate for this group.

Nominee name and complete contact information, including email address:

Lance E. Morgan
Glen Ellen CA

I have been a resident of Sonoma Valley for nearly 18 years, and in the North Central Region for over 25 years. During this time I have studied and worked at multiple coastal sites within this region. I studied harbor seals along the San Mateo coast as a graduate student at San Francisco State University, and worked as a scientist with The Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito, and conducted my Ph.D. at Bodega Marine Laboratory. This latter research focused on the nearshore environment and the sea urchin fishery along much of the coastline of the north central California coast. I spent a great deal of time above and below water along this section of coast, and have great familiarity with the coastline generally as a recreational fisherman, wildlife watcher and beachgoer.

Currently I Chief Scientist with Marine Conservation Biology Institute, a member of the Sanctuary Advisory Committee for Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary and stay involved in the local community here in Sonoma Valley. I was a past advisor to the Sonoma Ecology Center. I have links to a variety of stakeholders, scientists, local community groups and others interested in the marine environment. I will be able to communicate the MLPA work to these groups and can utilize my personal contacts throughout the Bay Area to update individuals and organizations. My job allows for a great deal of flexibility in my schedule and I am committed to attending the meetings of the RSG and being fully engaged in these activities.

I have not been involved in the California MLPA process, but I have been involved in local environmental efforts as well as a variety of national marine resource planning and management efforts. I have attended and spoken at Fishery Management Council meetings as well as meetings of the Mineral Management Service, NOAA MPA Center and National Marine Sanctuary Program. I also led an international effort for the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation to identify priority conservation areas for the Baja California to Bering Sea Region.

In summary, I have considerable experience with ocean issues, and have been a long time resident of the north central region with ties to many people in this region. I will be able to bridge local knowledge with a large vision of ocean health. I believe this makes me an excellent choice for the RSG.

Sincerely,

Lance Morgan